

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/31/10 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ted Wood and Aaron Ward on April 13, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

- **Claim 1**, line 1-2, “**using a 2-line serial multi-channel audio interconnect data bus**” has been removed.
- **Claim 1**, after “comprising:” in line 2 and before “transmitting” in line 6, “**communicating audio between an encoder and decoder using a 2-line serial multi channel audio interconnect data bus including only a first signal line and a second signal line;**” has been inserted.

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- **Claim 1**, line 6, “transmitting, by **an** encoder” has been replaced with -- transmitting, by **the** encoder - -
- **Claim 1**, line 6, “**a** first signal line” has been replaced with -- **the** first signal line - -
- **Claim 1**, line 9, “**a** second signal line” has been replaced with -- **the** second signal line - -
- **Claim 12**, line 1-2, “**using a 2-line serial multi-channel audio interconnect data bus**” has been removed.
- **Claim 12**, after “comprising:” in line 2 and before “receiving” in line 6, “**communicating audio between an encoder and decoder using a 2-line serial multi channel audio interconnect data bus including only a first signal line and a second signal line;**” has been inserted.
- **Claim 12**, line 6, “receiving, by **an** decoder” has been replaced with -- receiving, by **the** decoder - -
- **Claim 12**, line 6, “**a first signal line**” has been replaced with -- **the first signal line** - -
- **Claim 12**, line 9-10, “**a second signal line**” has been replaced with -- **the second signal line** - -
- **Claim 21**, after “comprising:” in line 1 and before “and encoder” in line 4, “**a 2-line serial multi-channel audio interconnect data bus configured to communicate audio, including only a first signal line and a second signal line;**” has been inserted.
- **Claim 21**, line 4, “**a 2-line serial multi-channel audio**” has been replaced with -- **the 2-line** serial multi-channel audio - -
- **Claim 21**, line 5, “**a first signal line**” has been replaced with -- **the first signal line** - -
- **Claim 21**, line 9, “**a second signal line**” has been replaced with -- **the second signal line** - -

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see pages 6-8, filed 3-11-10, with respect to claims 1-16 and 21 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-16 and 21 have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Amended claims 1-16 and 21 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Amended claims 1-16 and 21 are allowable over prior art since none of the prior art taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose, fairly suggests, or render obvious as argued by the applicant which examiner considers as persuasive as set forth above.

Amended claim 1 is allowable over U.S.C 101 under In Re Bilski 88 USPQ2d 1385, since amended claim recites, *inter alia*, "*transmitting by the encoder audio information segments on the first signal line, each segment include (i) a format portion...*"

Subject Matter eligibility Machine (M) Test

In view of the above, this specific method is performed by a particular machine (i.e. encoder that process audio information). The use of this particular machine imposes a meaningful limitation on the claim scope (i.e. process each segment includes a format portion) and involves more than insignificant extra-solution activity (i.e. *transmitting audio information segment*). Thus, the claim is clearly not an abstract idea and clearly has a real world application of transmitting audio information segments on the first signal line, and thus it does not preempt

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substantially all practical uses of a judicial exception. Thus, claim 1 is statutory under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Amended claim 12 is allowable over U.S.C 101 under In Re Bilski 88 USPQ2d 1385, since amended claim recites, *inter alia*, "*receiving by the decoder audio information segments on the first signal line, each segment include (i) a format portion...*"

Subject Matter eligibility Machine (M) Test

In view of the above, this specific method is performed by a particular machine (i.e. decoder that process audio information). The use of this particular machine imposes a meaningful limitation on the claim scope (i.e. process each segment includes a format portion) and involves more than insignificant extra-solution activity (i.e. *receiving audio information segment*). Thus, the claim is clearly not an abstract idea and clearly has a real world application of receiving audio information segments on the first signal line, and thus it does not preempt substantially all practical uses of a judicial exception. Thus, claim 12 is statutory under 35 U.S.C. 101.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to IAN N. MOORE whose telephone number is (571)272-3085.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derrick W. Ferris can be reached on 571-272-3123. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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